

Senate Joint Resolution

No. 14

Introduced by Senator Battin

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Aghazarian, Arambula, Baca, Bass, Benoit, Bermudez, Blakeslee, Bogh, Calderon, Canciamilla, Chavez, Cogdill, Coto, Daucher, DeVore, Emmerson, Garcia, Harman, Jerome Horton, Shirley Horton, Houston, Huff, Jones, Karnette, Keene, Koretz, La Malfa, La Suer, Laird, Leno, Leslie, Levine, Liu, Maze, McCarthy, Montanez, Mountjoy, Mullin, Nakanishi, Nation, Nava, Negrete McLeod, Niello, Nunez, Parra, Pavley, Plescia, Richman, Sharon Runner, Ruskin, Saldana, Salinas, Spitzer, Strickland, Torrico, Tran, Umberg, Villines, Walters, Wyland, and Yee)

May 16, 2005

Senate Joint Resolution No. 14—Relative to the Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 14, as amended, Battin. The Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center.

This measure would urge the President and the Congress of the United States to recognize the Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center, located at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside County, as a leader in homeland security training.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center
- 2 (BCTC) was established in 1996, and is the first operational joint
- 3 public safety training center in California, located on 375 acres
- 4 adjacent to March Air Reserve Base in Central Riverside County,

1 the center of the Inland Empire and home to the first Peace
2 Officer Standards and Training Commission peace officer
3 training academy; and

4 WHEREAS, The BCTC's current training facilities include
5 over 100,000 square feet of classroom and office space, onsite
6 food and lodging facilities, an emergency dispatch and
7 communications center, a physical training complex, and
8 interactive driving and force simulators; and

9 WHEREAS, The BCTC is fully operational and has been
10 providing public safety training for over eight years, including
11 advanced training to over 6,000 first responders from federal,
12 state, county, and municipal governments as well as military and
13 specialized personnel; and

14 WHEREAS, The BCTC has an approved Phased Master Plan
15 complete with an approved Environmental Impact Report for the
16 expansion of its existing campus into an area of undeveloped
17 land which provides a natural buffer from civilian uses; and

18 WHEREAS, Construction is underway for a multimillion
19 dollar Force Continuum Center, and the approved Master Plan
20 includes training complexes for underwater dive, rescue and
21 recovery, canine training, emergency driver training, fire rescue,
22 corrections training, equine training, and scenario training for
23 large scale incidents like train derailment and aircraft disasters;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, The BCTC has established a series of interrelated
26 and joint-use training partnerships with adjacent county agencies,
27 to include the Sheriffs' Offices of San Bernardino, Orange, and
28 San Diego Counties, that provide specialized training in a
29 number of key security missions; and

30 WHEREAS, The BCTC has a strong working relationship
31 with each branch of the Armed Forces, including the guard and
32 reserve components. The BCTC has been utilized as a scenario
33 village and training center by the Department of the Navy-United
34 States Marine Corps. This training provided for timely and
35 tailor-made combat training of our Armed Forces deploying to
36 Afghanistan and Iraq; and

37 WHEREAS, The BCTC is the home of Riverside Community
38 College and Southern Illinois University, providing fully
39 accredited institutions of higher learning to staff and students;
40 and

1 WHEREAS, Riverside Community College currently operates
2 a state-of-the-art facility at the BCTC for the training of public
3 safety and criminal justice professionals, including the Basic Law
4 Enforcement Academy, Fire Technology Academy, Emergency
5 Dispatcher Academy, Probation Officer Academy, and
6 Correctional Officer Academy; and

7 WHEREAS, The BCTC and March Hospital are well located
8 for the training of first responder personnel to terrorist attacks
9 and other public disasters; and

10 WHEREAS, This training of first responder personnel benefits
11 from convenient access to a fully equipped medical facility, a
12 central location for the staging of interagency drills and public
13 emergency response and training scenarios, advanced training
14 facilities that meet time-critical needs and continuing education
15 requirements, and onsite health professionals and educators; and

16 WHEREAS, These amenities provide the federal and state
17 government the unique opportunity to implement training
18 mandates with minimal cost; and

19 WHEREAS, The BCTC, and its many active assets and
20 surrounding training centers within the Inland Empire, can
21 partner with the California Office of Emergency Services, the
22 State Office of Homeland Security, and the United States
23 Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic
24 Preparedness, to receive state-directed federal funding available
25 for national scope training initiatives that prepare the nation to
26 prevent, deter, respond to, and recover from incidents of
27 terrorism; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
29 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California
30 urges the President and the Congress of the United States to
31 recognize the Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center, located at
32 March Air Reserve Base in Riverside County, as a leader in
33 homeland security training throughout southern California; and
34 be it further

35 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
36 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
37 States, each Senator and Representative from California in the
38 Congress of the United States, the Secretary and Deputy
39 Secretary of the United States Office of Homeland Security, the

- 1 Secretary of Defense, and to the author for appropriate
- 2 distribution.

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